Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness
COMIC SHOP NEWS
1233

Danger Girl Joins the Army

No, the heroines of ***Danger Girl*** aren't enlisting for military duty—but they might find that preferable to their next mission! This spring, they'll cross paths with Ash in the first-ever ***Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness*** crossover series, produced by Dynamite Entertainment in conjunction with IDW.

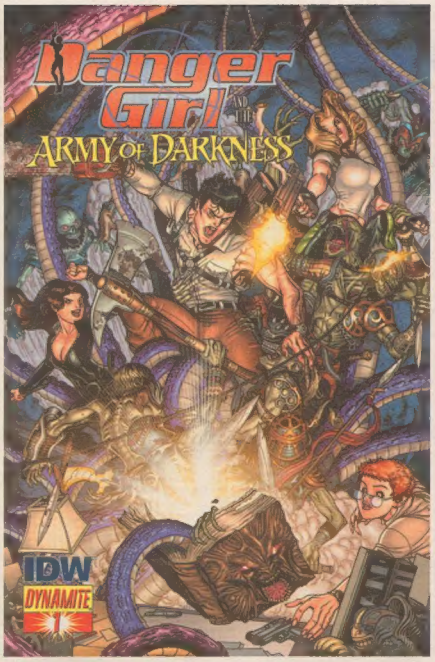
The return of ***Danger Girl*** in any product is sure to be exciting news to the legions of fans of this sexy adventure series—but even better is the news that the project is plotted and written by ***Danger Girl's*** co-creators, *J. Scott Campbell* and *Andy Hartnell*.

Dynamite publisher *Nick Barrucci* explained how the crossover project came about. "This is our first crossover with IDW, and it features the return of the Danger Girls for the first time since ***Danger Girl*** left DC Comics. Believe it or not, the whole crossover discussion started approximately four or five years ago (if memory serves) when ***Danger Girl*** was at Wildstorm. *Andy Hartnell* had written the first miniseries, and we were very happy with the work he did. Knowing that Jeff and Andy were fans of ***Army of Darkness*** (Jeff drew one of the covers for ***Army of Darkness #1***), we thought a crossover would be a cool idea.

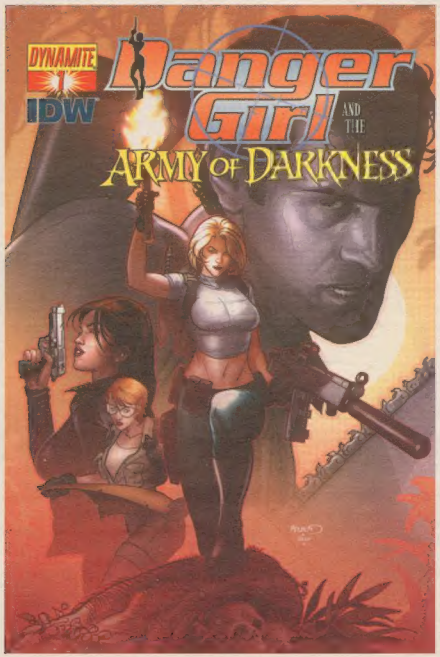
"Unfortunately the timing didn't work out, because Wildstorm had plans for a ***Danger Girl*** series with Jeff and Andy with *Phil Noto*, and then another one with *Nick Bradshaw*, and it didn't come together.

"When ***Danger Girl*** moved to its new home at IDW, I spoke with Jeff and Andy again to see if they were still interested; they said it sounded cool, I talked with Andy and to IDW, and it came together. So it's the crossover series that's five years in the making!"

Any problem getting the ***Army of Darkness*** licensor to go along with the crossover? For that matter, how does a publisher go about pitching something like this to a third party license-holder? "Well, if you're working with a licensor who is not familiar with comic properties, you have to walk them through it," Barrucci said. "We explained that we had put ***Army of Darkness*** on the shelf for a period of time, and that a crossover with ***Danger Girl*** would be a good way to re-introduce Ash and friends—like Ash has friends!—to the market; thankfully, they went along with our judgment. So I guess the answer is, ultimately you go about it by just asking—after all, if you don't ask, the answer is already 'no, right?"



Andy Hartnell summarized the events that bring the stars of the two series together. "The idea behind this whole thing is 'what happens when you take a very raw, rude and reluctant hero like Ash and throw him into the mix with a really ambitious and high-energy adventure team like Danger Girl?' I kind of think of it like a Caveman with keys to a Ferrari," Hartnell said with a smile, adding, "That will be my next series, by the way—'Caveman with a Ferrari.'"



Does it make it easier that both series blend high-action and light-hearted adventure? "It doesn't make it *easy*, but it does make it *work*," Hartnell said. "That along with our main characters of Abbey and Ash both having an interest in supernatural antiquities."

Was it all difficult to get "back in gear' with the characters after being away from them for so long? "Not so much, really," Hartnell said. "I'm *always* up for more ***Danger Girl***, and the girls are always ready for their next big adventure. IDW Publishing has just released a beautiful new deluxe version of the original ***Danger Girl*** series, and ***Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness*** is just the first of several new ***Danger Girl*** series currently in the works."

J. Scott Campbell has done some great cover work for Dynamite over the years, so there's obviously a solid pre-existing working relationship. Did that help to make this crossover possible? "I suppose it did," Campbell said. "Dynamic Forces—the parent company of Dynamite Entertainment—and ***Danger Girl*** have had a connection since way back in the beginning, with variant covers—and the ***Danger Girl*** special from years ago was originally put together as a Dynamic Forces project. Also, *Andy Hartnell* has worked with Nick and Dynamite pretty steadily over the years."

Many fans will be a slightly disappointed to hear that Campbell isn't supplying the visuals for this series, since it was his striking artwork that helped to propel ***Danger Girl*** into star series status. 'I *do* want to produce another ***Danger Girl*** miniseries with Andy and myself on the interiors again, much like the very original series, but I don't have a timetable on that one as of yet," Campbell said. "It's more of an 'on the horizon' thing.

"Of course, I understand the fans who really want to see *me* drawing these characters—I get that. I was the original artist, and in their eyes, that's the version of the characters that they fell in love with. I take it as a compliment, and that's why I'd like to return to the series art sometime in the future."

Many fans view ***Danger Girl*** as Campbell's "signature project," the work that defines him artistically and exemplifies his career. How does he feel about that? Is it at all off-putting or intimidating that the series is held in such high esteem? "I feel pretty good about it," Campbell said. "Many artists go through an entire career without even one real signature project. I've been fortunate enough to have two, with both ***Gen 13*** and ***Danger Girl***. And the two projects have given me a nice little reputation as a 'girlie artist,' which I rather like.

"Of course it's great to have the series held in such high esteem by the fans— but as you said, it *can* be intimidating. For a while I didn't want to put out *any* ***Danger Girl*** that wasn't drawn by me. But if Andy and I are to keep our characters 'alive' in the eyes of the fans, we've got to continue to put out more books and experiment with more and more artists. That's what you do when you're producing comic books. So. I'm trying not to be quite so precious with it, trying not to let ***Danger Girl***'s past legacy weigh us down."

What's the nature of the working relationship between the two creators? "It depends on the project," Hartnell explained. "On something like the original ***Danger Girl*** series, and also with ***Wildsiderz***, Campbell and I will create the entire concept and storyline together.

"For this series, Campbell contributed a knock-out cover to kick off the first issue. He was also available to offer advice on the general direction of the entire crossover. I would say *every* ***Danger Girl*** series is a joint effort between Campbell and myself, though, even if he's not co-plotting or penciling the pages himself. These are characters we developed together, and they wouldn't be going anywhere without his incredible talent and creativity."

Since *J. Scott Campbell's* cover schedule keeps him quite busy, how involved will he be with ***Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness?*** "I'll be honest, my schedule doesn't really allow me to be as involved personally as I'd like to be," Campbell said, "but Andy knows the tone, the feel, the characters and the backstory as much as I do, and I know that the project is in good hands with him."

Were Hartnell and Campbell ***Army of Darkness*** fans before signing on for this crossover project? "Oh, the *biggest!*" Campbell said. "Love the movie and absolutely love *Bruce Campbell*. And the connection between the two projects has been there for a while—in fact, *Bruce Campbell* wrote the forward to our fist ***Danger Girl*** hardcover collection!"

"Absolutely fans of everything ***Army of Darkness,***" Hartnell added. "Dynamite has really been on track, bringing us the further adventures of so many fan-favorite properties—and Ash has been right up there as one of the most entertaining characters ever created."

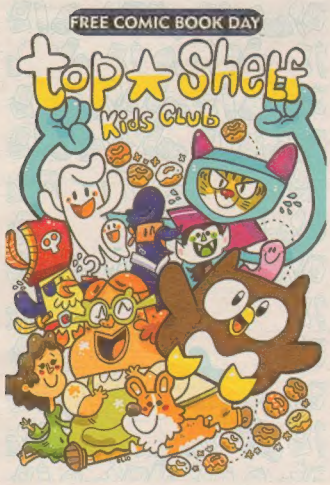
How well do the two concepts mesh? "When the books come out, you'll have to tell us!" Campbell said with a smile.

Readers will have a chance to judge for themselves this spring. "We're launching ***Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness*** as a six-issue series beginning in April, Barrucci said. "But following the six-issue story arc, Ash will continue in his own adventures starting with the seventh issue—so in a way, you can almost say this is the ***Army of Darkness*** ongoing series relaunch as well."

Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness #1, a $3.99 comic written by *J. Scott Campbell & Andy Hartnell* with interior art by *Chris Bolson* and covers by and covers by *J. Scott Campbell, Nick Bradshaw,* and *Paul Renaud*

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!



Kids Reach for the Top Shelf

Top Shelf may be best known for its sophisticated, cutting-edge independent comics offerings, but the publisher has always offered an array of products targeted towards all-ages readers, including the delightful ***Owly,*** the quirky ***Johnny Boo,*** and the evocative ***Korgi.*** And later this year, Top Shelf will give those books their very own corner of the Top Shelf Universe.

"For years, some of our greatest books have been graphic novels for all ages," Top Shelf publisher *Chris Staros* said. "In 2011, we're taking the plunge and expanding that line in a big way, with the official launch of the ***Top Shelf Kids Club!***"

Top Shelf will introduce the line in this year's Free Comic Book Day offering, which will feature a half-dozen all-ages tales—*Andy Runton's* ***Owly,*** *James Kochalka's* ***Johnny Boo;*** *Christian Slade's* ***Korgi,*** and the first-ever apeparances of *Chris Eliopoulos'* ***Okie Dokie Donuts,*** *Ray Friesen's* ***Pirate Penguin Vs. Ninja Chicken,*** and *Jess Smart Smiley's* ***Upside Down: A Vampire's Tale.*** This will pave the way for eight 2011 all-ages releases from Top Shelf, kicking off the not only with full-length with volumes of the three new projects just metnioned, but also ***Scene But Not Heard*** by *Sam Henderson,* ***Owly Volume 6: A Fishy Situation*** by *Andy Runton,* and ***Dragon Puncher Book Two: Dragon Puncher Island*** by *James Kochalka.*

"We're so excited to keep growing our family of kids books, and now to bring them officially togehter in the Kids Club," Staros said. "All of these titles have the same charm and richness we look for in all of our books."

"With my own son starting school, I'm always looking for books we can share," Top Shelf co-publisher *Brett Warnock* added. "He and I go bananas for ***Johnny Boo!***"

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

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For your Reid-ing Pleasure

Kevin Smith's unproduced screenplay was the inspiration for the first ten issues of ***Kevin Smith's Green Hornet***—but once that story arc wrapped up in late 2010, the title of the book was changed. Now known simply as ***The Green Hornet,*** the series continues where the Smith storyline left off, featuring the same characters and concepts, but now the stories are all *Phil Hester's.* But rest assured, if you liked what you saw in the first ten issues, you're going to love what's happening in the book now!

Dynamite Entertainment Publisher *Nick Barrucci* explained the reason behind the name change. "The series is still based on everything that came before as developed by *Kevin Smith;* while, from a marketing point of view, we would love to keep Kevin's name on the book, it wouldn't be fair to *Phil Hester,* as he is scripting it full on, and this is now his baby as a writer. This is Phil's voice, and it should be allowed to be such—and it would take away from what he's doing to have *Kevin Smith's* name remain on the masthead."

Now that Hester is continuing with original stories, how closely is he tracking to *Kevin Smith's* vision of the Hornet and Kato? "Anyone who has read Kevin's run knows that he wrote a distinct ending to his arc," Hester explained. "He created the characters, put them through the wringer, and gave them a satisfying conclusion. It's my job to continue the adventures of these characters, taking them into new territory while maintaining the characteristics Kevin established. That doesn't mean they're frozen in amber. I can have them change, but that change must seem credible. So, I guess that's a roundabout way of saying I'm trying to stay true to Kevin's concepts while exploring new ideas."

One of rhe characters who's undergoing some significant—and not particularly pleasant—changes is Mulan Kato. In the aftermath of his father's death, is Britt beginnng to feel a little like fate has it out for him? "He's feeling isolated, that's for sure," Hester said. "I think one of the marvelous things about our book is that the Green Hornet universe is not a super hero universe. Violence has repercussions here. A crime fighter shouldn't expect to come home whole every night. I'd describe our approach to violence as a ***Die Hard*** one. The action may get over the top, but the characters suffer and bleed like real people. You get punched through a wall and you break ribs. You don't have time for one liners.

"Kato is the most recent victim of this violence and it has shaken Britt. We're a few months out from his father's death, so he's coming to terms with that, but Mulan Kato is his Obi Wan and Leia rolled into one. She was the doorway to this bizarre crime fighting world, his guide, as well as a beacon for his romantic aspirations, too. Losing all that will put stress on any man, especially a rookie hero."

Can Green Hornet be effective without a Kato by his side? "That's what we'll find out in the next few issues. Effective as a crime fighter? Maybe. Effective as entertainment for his readers? Hell, yes!"

This is the first ***Green Hornet*** title that Dynamite used to launch its franchise, and it's still the highest-profile book in the franchise. Does that make it Dynamite's flagship Hornet title? "As of today, it is defnitely the flagship title," Barrucci said. "While things may change, Phil and artist *Jonathan Lau* are doing a bang-up job, and we're going to keep it at this title as the centerpiece of our ***Green Hornet*** line for the foreseeable future."

Does Hester feel a sense of friendly competition with the other incarnations of the Hornet that are present in Dynamite's line now? Is there any storyline coordination between the various books? "I'm good friends with most everyone writing Hornet books, so competition isn't really the word," Hester said. "I want them to do well. The more people are aware of ***Green Hornet,*** the better chance they might try my book. Plus, *Jai Nitz* and *Matt Wagner* have separate universes to play in. Only Parks and I have to coordinate, which is pretty easy as we talk regularly. I think it actually speaks well of Kato's character that he/she can support as many books as the Green Hornet. That's some sidekicking!"

So what's in store for ***The Green Hornet*** in 2011? "Lots more villains, including one from Hayashi Kato's past that will blow your mind," Hester replied. "Clutch finding the spotlight. More off and on romance between Britt and Mulan and, as always, plenty of ass-kicking. Bzzzz!"

Is there any chance that *Kevin Smith* might return at some point to supply another ***Green Hornet*** storyline? "Kevin has stated he would like to come back and do a new storyline sometime in the future, and truly this is up to him," Barrucci said. "We would always want to work with Kevin. We had a great experience on the title and we can't thank him enough, it really helped put one of my favorite characters on the map."

Green Hornet #13 by *Phil Hester &*

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

AS THE BIG MOMENT DRAWS NEAR...
NOW THAT YOU'VE ORDERED YOUR GIANT CREATURE TO LEAVE, MELVIN...
...WE CAN PROCEED WITH THE CEREMONY.
NOTHING WILL STOP US NOW, MY DEAR!
LET US BEGIN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE AUNT MAY WILL REALLY MARRY HIM!
MAYBE SHE LOST A BET AN' DIDN'T TELL US!
STAN LEE / LARRY LIEBER 1-17
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Jonathan Lau, slated for late February release, will feature the fall of Mulan Kato. The storyline continues into March's ***Green Hornet #14***, which pits a solo Green Hornet against the power of Santa Muerte. Then, in April's ***Green Hornet #15***, the Green Hornet continues to try his hand at solo crime fighting, but a rookie mistake has tragic consequences that may force Britt Reid Jr. to give up his role as Green Hornet forever, while Hayashi and Clutch Kato find themselves targeted by the deadliest assassin alive, the mysterious Redhand.

Jimenez Joins the Legion

Acclaimed artist *Phil Jimenez* has signed an exclusive contract with DC Comics, ***Adventure Comics/Legion of Super Heroes*** editor *Brian Cunningham* announced on DC's blog ***The Source***. Jimenez will drwa and co-pplot adventures of DC's heroes of the 31st Century.

"Of all of the tentpole DC franchises, Phil has never tried his hand at the classic, iconic 31st Century—and as the editor of both ***Legion of Super-Heroes*** and ***Adventure Comics***, I was stunned when he asked to draw a short story in ***Legion #6*** this past year," Cunningham said. "And the more Phil came in to drop off his penciled pages, the more we kinda geeked out on all things Legion—particulary [writer] *Paul Levitz's* powerful and lengthy run during our hard-core fanboy days.

"We commiserated on how Pauls '***Encyclopedia Galactica*** info-captions would astoundingly have compelling stories within 15 words. And reveled in our mutual fondness for the gruff Timber Wolf. And gushed over *Keith Giffen's* unique design of the future—with windowless, curvy structures—and how it still resonates in 2010 as it did back in 1982. With Phil I found a kindred spirit, perfect for all the good stuff going on in the Legion world right now."

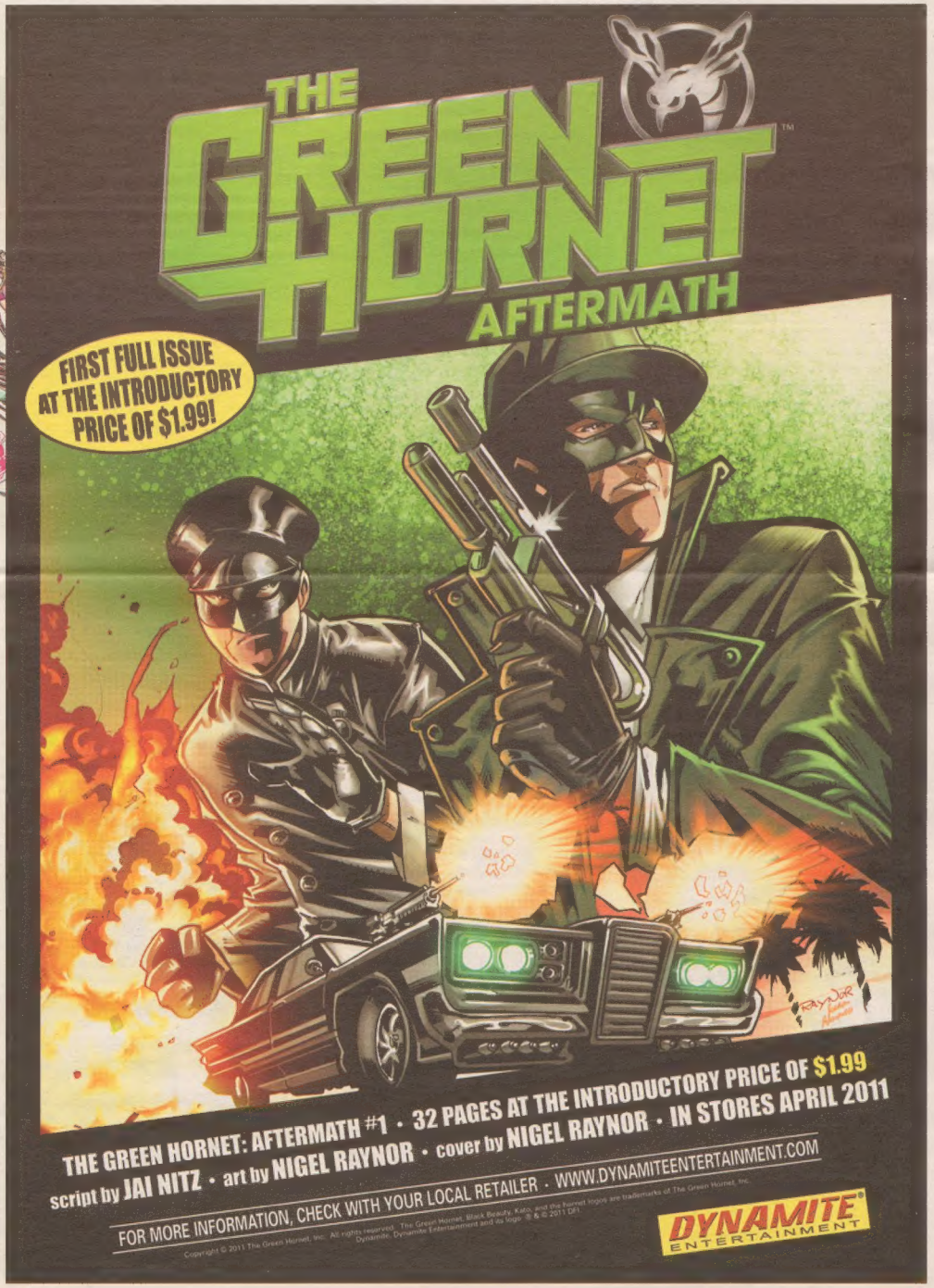
Jimenez will kick off his venture into the 31st Century with the "Legion Academy" tale in ***Adventure Comics #523***. These are the very same characters Jimenez himself had a hand in creating with Levitz in the aforementioned ***Legion of Super-Heroes #6***.

Beginnings and Ender's

Readers of *Orson Scott Card's* best-seling, Hugo and Nebula Award winning ***Ender's Game*** are already familiar with the young hero of the Third Formic War. But exactly what happened in the first two Formic Wars that predated Ender Wiggins' adventures? That's a tale that Card has only hinted at—but now he's going to tell all in ***Formic Wars***, a seven-part comic book series that presents the never-before-told prequel to ***Ender's Game***.

Formic Wars unites *Orson Scott Card* with co-writer *Aaron Johnston* and artist *Giancarlo Caracuzzo* to tell the tale of the beginnings of humanity's war with the insectoid Formics.

"I've been so happy with Marvel's comic-book adaptation of ***Ender's Game***, ***Ender's Shadow***, ***Ender in Exile***, and ***Speaker of the Dead*** that I wanted my long-imagined story of the Formic Wars to appear first in this wonderfully visualized form," Card said. "With a whole new set of characters, putting together a ragtag fleet of improvised and adapted spacecraft to take on an alien invad-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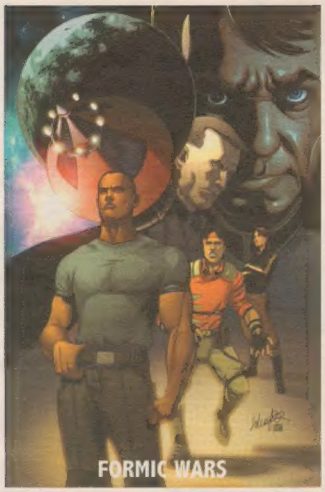


er, I think these are some of the best, most inspiring stories in the ***Ender's Game*** future history, and through the work of Marvel's great team of writers and artists, my tales are coming to life with a power and reality I never could have managed on my own."

The series will finally reveal how the conflict between humans and the Formics developed, why humanity was unable to conquer the alien race in the earlier wars, and why a Battle School for young future soldiers became a necessity.

"There are few writers as prolific and popular as *Orson Scott Card*," said *David Gabriel*, SVP Sales & Circulation, Marvel Entertainment. "We're extremely thrilled to bring ***Formic Wars*** to life for the first time in any medium and even more excited to have *Orson Scott Card* at the helm. If you're a fan of the Ender's books, or just a fan of classic sci-fi, you won't want to miss this series."

Formic Wars #1 is scheduled for February 16th release.

Birds of Prey Saizes Up New Artist

The Birds of Prey make room for a star with amazing illustrative skills as Jesus Saiz taker over regular art honors on ***Birds of Prey*** beginning this May. Saiz has most recently worked as regular artist on *J. Michael Straczynski's* all-too-short-lived run on ***Brave and the Bold.***

"Jesus is at the top of a very short list of dream artists on our, 'Oh, man, wouldn't *he* be fantastic?' list," ***Birds of Prey*** writer *Gail Simone* said. "His previous work has been silky and sexy and powerful all at the same time. He's fantastic with design, storytelling, body language… an artist this good frees up the writer to make the stories even bigger and more complex.

"We were lucky to get him, and when his first piece of art came in, the cover to ***Birds of Prey #12***, we knew absolutely he was the perfect choice. We cannot *wait* for you to see his take on Dinah, Helena, Babs and Zinda. Together, we're going to make 2011 the best year for ***Birds of Prey*** ever!"

CSNsider

•When Superman makes his long-awaited return to ***Action Comics*** this spring, he'll be joined by fan-favorite artist *Alex Ross*, who's supplying a variant cover painting offering a slightly different look at the iconic ***Action Comics #1*** cover that first introduced Superman to the world. ***Action Comics #900***, the book that restores Superman to the title in which he first starred, is scheduled for April release.

•The Demon is returning later this year in an original miniseries courtesy of musician-turned-comics-writer *Scott Ian* and fan-fave artist *Sam Kieth*. The two worked together on last year's ***Lobo: Highway to Hell***, and the collaboration went so well that they're reuniting for the Demon project, DC's blog ***The Source*** reports.

Ian, who also released a new album, ***Ironiclast*** by the Damned Things (which features members of Anthrax, Fall Out Boy and Every Time I Die), said, "I've been a fan of Etrigan since I was kid buying comics off of the racks. *Jack Kirby* created him for Hell's sake and now I get to spew Hellfire like it's never been spewed before. And I get to blow up Las Vegas... Thanks DC for sending me to Hell and back!"

•*Phil Hester*, the writer tapped by DC to take over once *J. Michael Straczynski* gave up the scripting honors on ***Wonder Woman***, is looking beyond the twelve-part JMS-plotted story arc as he makes his ***Wonder Woman*** plans for the rest of 2011. And one thing's for sure: he's going to explore of develop the Amazon's rogues gallery as the year goes on.

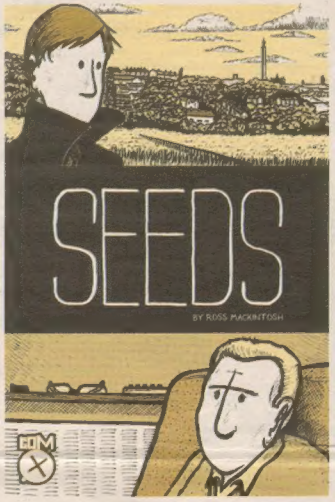
On DC's blog The Source, Hester told DC's *Austin Trunick*, "I've had the pleasure of revamping a few Wonder Woman villains of late and let me tell you something, I've never wished harder for a time machine. I'd love to go back and tell my twelve-year-old self that I'd someday be making a list of real-live DC super villains to play with, and deciding their fates in the pages of ***Wonder Woman***...

"I've spent many a sleepless night making a mental checklist of all the awful people in the DCU who hate our beloved Diana, and though she deserves no enmity from any quarter, the list is long. Long and colorful. There are decades of rogues to choose from—some ridiculous, some genuinely disturbing. And like Batman's enemies, Wonder Woman's seem to take their vendettas very personally. There are so many character flaws and bizarre quirks piled into these creeps that any writer could find a handhold there. I could lose myself for days scaling the mountain of peculiar opponents lined up against Diana.

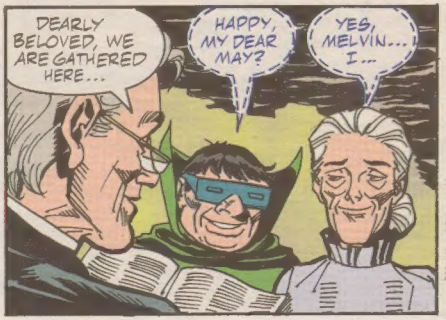
"Yes, there is no shortage of miscreants who hate Wonder Woman—but that's not enough for ***Wonder Woman: Odyssey***. Mere hatred won't do. I unfurl the list again in my head and check off the villains who hate Diana… Until I find one who loves her."

So who will make the cut? We'll find out in upcoming issues of ***Wonder Woman!***

•***The Spiderwick Chronicles*** author *Holly Black* makes her Vertigo debut this fall when she joins *Bill Willingham*, *Alisa Kwitney*, *Louise Hawes*, and *T.D. Mitchell* to explore all things angelic in ***A Flight of Angels***, an original graphic novel featuring fully painted art by *Rebecca Guay*. The book's contents range from tales of the dangerous to the all-powerful to guardian angels and angels of death.



•Writer/artist *Ross Mackintosh* explores a subject that touches all too many of us in ***Seeds***, a grpahic novel that presents an autobiographical tale of how he and his family were affected by his father's cancer. The powerful, moving story takes readers from the first diagnosis through his father's continuing decline. "Cancer has affected almost everyone in some way or other—our company's inner circle included," Com.X's *Benjamin Shahrabani* said, "which is what influenced our decision to publish Ross's book. While we can't be sure what the demand will be for such a title, know that at the very least it deserves an audience. We also hope that such a book might provide a modicum of comfort and support to others touched by this tragic disease." ***Seeds***, *Ross Mackintosh's* first graphic novel, is scheduled for April 2011 release.


DEARLY BELOVED, WE ARE GATHERED HERE...
HAPPY, MY DEAR MAY?
YES, MELVIN... I...
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•Lady Deadpool... Kid Deadpool... Headpool... Dogpool... they're all on their way back, rejoining Deadpool in the oneshot ***Deadpool Family #1*** by *James Asmus, Cullen Bunn, Mary HK Choi, Darnell Johnson, Dominike Stanton,* and *Iren Strychalski.* "People really couldn't get enough of the Deadpools," Marvel editor *Sebastian Girner* said. "We wanted to continue delivering the action-packed hilarity and the great team dynamic we've created with this cast so we've lined up some really talented creative teams to tell the stories of this Deadpool Family." Look for the $3.99 oneshot in April.

•*Vince Moore & Cezar Rezak's* ***Total Recall #1,*** a May release from Dynamite Entertainment, launches a series that picks up where the 1990 *Arnold Schwarzenegger* SF film left off. Having killed Cohaagen and given Mars an atmosphere, Douglas Quaid (the man who was Hauser) simply wants to live happily ever after with the woman of his dreams, Melina. But how can Quaid have his happily ever after with Mars in chaos, new enemies coming to the red planet, and a mysterious stranger walking about?

•The Hulk's son explores his barbaric side in ***Skaar, King of the Savage Land,*** a five-part limited series by *Rob Williams & Brian Ching.* The series follows Skaar into the inner-earth Savage Land, where the Hulk's son finds the challenges of the harsh environment appealing. Of course the Savage Land already has a king of the jungle: Ka-Zar—so it's no surprise that Ka-Zar and his wife Shanna the She-Devil figure prominently in the new series.

"I don't want to give too much away, but the status quo of Ka-Zar as democratic leader is going to be ripped to pieces early on," Williams said. "A very old player with a strong tie to the Savage Land will reemerge and it will lead to civil war between the tribes along with the shutting off of links to the outside world. This is a war for the soul of the Savage Land, and Skaar finds himself forced to choose a side."

Michael Komarck supplies the striking cover for the first issue, while *Ed McGuinness* does cover honors for ***Skaar, King of the Savage Land #2.***

•DC Direct has cancelled orders for ***The Two-Face 1:2 Scale Bust;*** it is being resolicited in the February ***Previews*** for release later this year.

•DC Direct has also cancelled orders for their ***World of Warcraft Horde Collectible Coin Set*** and ***World of Warcraft Alliance Collectible Coin Set;*** both items are resolicited in the February ***Previews*** for release later this year.

•Marvel has added unlimited variant cover editions of ***5 Ronin #s 1-5,*** each featuring art by *David Aja.* These variants are offered in addition to the previously solicited regular covers.

•*Jefte Palo* has been tapped to illustrate ***Black Panther—Man Without Fear #516,*** replacing *Francesco Francavilla.*

•***Daffodil TP*** and ***Husk TP*** have both been cancelled by Marvel.

•***Onslaught #1*** has been renamed ***Onslaught Unleashed #1.***

•***Arcade: Death Game #s 1-3*** have been cancelled.

•This summer, *Alan Moore & Kevin O'Neill* will present the next installment of ***The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen Volume III. LOEG vIII #2—1969,*** an eighty-page standalone tale that takes the League into the Sixties, is set in Swinging London in 1969, where Tadukic Acid Diethylamide 26 is the favorite drug. Mina Murray and her shrinking group of comrades are fighting to prevent the birth of a Moonchild that might be the antichrist. Look for it in July.

•***Dark Tower—Gunslinger: Sheemie's Tale*** has been cancelled, but it will be resolicited at a later date.

•This May, *Tim Seeley's* ***Hack/Slash*** heroes Cassie and Vlad venture into Moonstone territory in the crossover tale ***Hack/Slash Meets Zombies Vs. Cheerleaders.*** In this tale by *Steven L. Frank & Benjamin Glendenning,* Cassie and Vlad go undercover at Washington State High School to investigate the mysterious disappearance of several students. Soon Cassie is a part of the cheerleading squad, while Vlad is recruited for the football team. But high school has its own unique horrors... at least, *this* high school does! The book will feature cover art by *Mike DeBalfo, Dominic Marco, Benjamin Glendenning,* and ***Hack/Slash*** creator *Tim Seeley.*

•The order of the ***Secret Six/Doom Patrol*** crossover two-parter has been reversed; the story arc will now begin in ***Secret Six #30*** and will conclude in ***Doom Patrol #19.***

•*James Peaty* has been selected as the new writer of ***Supergirl;*** he'll begin with ***Supergirl #60,*** which he cowrites with Nick Spencer, before taking over as solo writer beginning with ***Supergirl #61.***

•DC has cancelled orders on ***Azrael: Killer of Saints TP*** and ***The Authority: The Lost Year Book Two TP;*** neither book will be published.

•If you missed out on the ***Tiny Titans/Little Archie*** crossover limited series, you can enjoy the entire storyline in one bargain edition when Archie collects all three parts in ***World of Archie Double Digest #5;*** look for the $3.99 digest in mid-March.

A month later, Little Archie is back in a brand-new adventure in ***Archie & Friends #154,*** written by *Angelo DeCesare* and illustrated by *Fernando Ruiz.* This tale finds Little Archie's dog Spotty facing off against Little Sabrina's cat Salem in the Power Pet Pageant. Things go from bad to worse as Salem uses his own magic powers to let everyone know exactly what their pets think of the situation.

•Marvel has added 1-for-15 *Chris Bachalo* variant cover editions of ***X-Men #8*** (NOV108287) and ***X-Men #9*** (NOV108288); check with the folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop for more info on price and availability!

•*Todd McFarlane* and Image Comics have been preparing for the boost in interest in all things ***Spawn*** that has accompanied the sold-out ***Spawn #200;*** according to Image's *Betsy Gomez,* "New series artist *Szymon Kudranski* and writer *Will Carlton* are already several issues ahead. ***Spawn #s 201-205*** will be coming out bi-weekly, to build on the momentum of the 200th issue. ***Spawn #201*** will be in stores January 26; ***Spawn #202*** will be in stores February 9; ***Spawn #203*** will be in stores February 23; ***Spawn #204*** will be in

STAY BACK, EVERYBODY-- GIVE HER SOME AIR!
WH-WHAT HAPPENED? WHY DID SHE COLLAPSE?
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SOME YEARS AGO, I DID MISSIONARY WORK. IN PREPARATION FOR THAT, I RECEIVED A BIT OF MEDICAL TRAINING...
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AND I FEAR I KNOW WHAT MAY BE WRONG WITH MAY PARKER!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 1-19

stores March 9; and ***Spawn #205*** will be in stores March 23." At that point, the title will return to a monthly schedule, but Image is optimistic that the book will maintain that schedule for the foreseeable future.

Back to Press

•***27 #2 2nd Printing,*** (NOV108244), in stores 2/9.
•***Black Panther: The Man Without Fear #513 2nd Printing*** (NOV108273), in stores this week.
•***Carnage #1 2nd Printing*** (DEC108013), in stores 2/9.
•***Carnage #2 2nd Printing*** (DEC108014), in stores 2/9.
Fantastic Four #583 3rd Printing (NOV108259), in stores now.
•***Fantastic Four #584 2nd Printing*** (NOV108260), in stores now.
•***Fantastic Four #585 2nd Printing*** (NOV108261), in stores now.
•***Fantastic Four #586 2nd Printing*** (NOV108262), in stores now.
•***Spawn #200 2nd Printing*** (DEC108009), in stores 2/9..
•***Steel #1 2nd Printing*** (NOV108297), featuring a recolored version of the original cover by *Alex Garner*, in stores 2/9. (This story will continue into ***Outsiders #37, Justice League of America #55, Superman/Batman Annual #5,*** and ***Superboy #6,*** so readers of those titles might want to make sure they don't miss the first part of this storyline.)

Coming Comics—Dark Horse in April

Three years after accidently burning her family alive, 14-year-old firestarter Liz Sherman travels with Professor Broom to investigate a small New England town, where a terrible witch hunt occurred and a ghost plagues a priest's house in ***BPRD: The Dead Remembered #1,*** the debut issue of a three-parter by *Mike Mignola, Scott Allie, Karl Moline & Andy Owens.*

Dark Horse Presents returns in April as an eighty-page original anthology series—nd the contributors to the first issue include such comics legend as *Neal Adams, Howard Chaykin,* and *Richard Corben;* a new Concrete story by *Paul Chadwick,* a new Crimson Empire story from the Star Wars universe, a Mr. Monster tale by *Michael T. Gilbert;* a new all-color ***Finder*** story by *Carla Speed McNeil;* a prose piece by *Harlan Ellison;* and an exclusive sneak peek of *Frank Miller's* highly-anticipated prequel to ***300, Xerxes.***

Mike Mignola joins forces with *Kevin Nowlan* for the oneshot ***Hellboy: Buster Oakley Gets Hish Wish.*** Sucked into a giant spacecraft full of mutated livestock, Hellboy must fight his way through giant robots, strange webbing, and evil aliens to get back to terra firma!

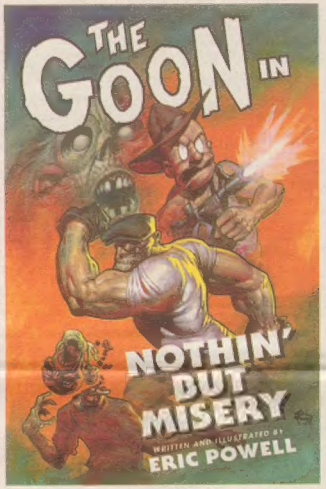
•***Magnus, Robot Fighter Volume 1 TP,*** collecting the first four issues of the *Jim Shooter* series relaunch, along with the Magnus story from the ***2010 Free Comic Book Day*** comic.

Bruce Jones & Rahsan Ekedal invite readers to experience the grim world of *Robert E. Howard's* Puritan hero in ***Solomon Kane: Red Shadows #1.*** The first issue adapts Howard's "Skulls in the Stars" short story, as Kane finds himself engaged in a supernatural battle on the dreary moor road to Torkertown.

Cole Haddon & M.S. Corley blend the classic tale of Dr. Jekyll and Mister Hyde and the horrors of the real-world Jack the Ripper in ***The Strange Case of Mr. Hyde,*** a four-part limited series that finds a Scotland Yard inspector drawing on the twisted expertise of Mr. Hyde in order to capture Jack the Ripper.

Dark Horse enlists Hugo and Bram Stoker award-winning editor *Ellen Datlow* to present ***Supernatural Noir,*** a 336-page trade paperback that features sixteen stories by such creators as *Brian Evenson, Joe R. Lansdale, Caitlín R. Kiernan, Nick Mamatas, Gregory Frost,* and *Jeffrey Ford.*

Dark Horse collected volumes (advance solicited for May and June release) include:
•***Al Capp's Complete Shmoo Volume 2: The Newspaper Strips HC,*** collecting every weekly and Sunday Shmoo newspaper appearance from their debut in August 1948 to their final appearance in 1976, along with rare *Al Capp* photographs and Shmoo illustrations, a look at some Shmoo-centric products from its marketing heyday, a brand-new Shmoo wraparound cover by renowned illustrator *Pete Poplaski,* as well as an introduction and story annotations by *Denis Kitchen.*
•***Aliens Vs. Predator: Three World War TP,*** collecting the six-issue limited series.
•***Baltimore Volume 1: The Plague Ships TP,*** collecting the five-issue miniseries along with an extensive sketchbook section.
•***Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season Eight Volume 8: Last Gleaming TP,*** collecting ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer #s 36-40*** and the ***Riley*** oneshot.
•***The Chronicles of King Conan Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***King Conan #s 6-10,*** featuring tales by *Roy Thomas, Doug Moench, John Buscema, & Ernie Chan.*
•***Citizen Rex HC,*** collecting the six-issue series by *Mario Hernandez & Gilbert Hernandez.*
•***Conan: The Frazetta Cover Series #7,*** collecting ***Conan the Cimmerian #s 11-13*** behind the *Frank Frazetta* Conan cover painting "Sacrifice," one of the few Frazetta paintings to directly depict a scene from a *Robert E. Howard* story.
•***Dean Motter's Mister X: The Brides of Mister X and Other Stories HC,*** collecting *Dean Motter's* ***Mister X Vol 2 #s 1-12, Mister X Special #1,*** and stories from ***A1 #2, Comic Book Artist V2 #6,*** and ***ArtReview #s 27 & 28.***



•***The Goon Volume 1: Nothin' But Misery 2nd Edition TP,*** featuring a brand-new cover and design.
•***Tarzan: The Jesse Marsh Years Volume 9 HC,*** collecting Dell's ***Tarzan's Jungle Annual #2*** and ***Tarzan #s 44-46*** from 1953.
•***The Terminator: 2029-1984 TP,*** collecting ***Terminator 2029 #s 1-3*** and ***Terminator: 1984 #s 1-3*** by *Zack Whedon & Andy MacDonald.*

Dark Horse's line of ***Toy Story*** syroco styled statues continues with ***Toy Story: Woody's Roundup #3—Jessie,*** featuring the sassy cowgirl as sculpted by *Yoe Studios.* The statue is limited to 950 numbered pieces and is packaged in its own tin box with a pin-back button and character booklet.

YOU SAY YOU KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY BELOVED BRIDE?
WHAT IS IT, MAN?
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Coming Comics—Dynamite in April

Christmas 1944 sees Captain Greg Mallory safely in reserve, far from the front line with Nazi Germany. A good time to rest and refit, to recover from the horrors of war. Not such a good time for a unit of very special soldiers—backed by the Vought-American-Consolidated corporation—to show up looking for combat experience. Hughie gets a war story he'll never forget, as the Battle Of The Bulge begins with a bang in *Garth Ennis & John McCrea's* ***The Boys #53.***

Abbey Chase, the world's most daring adventuress, returns to action with the Danger Girls as she aims to recover the dark and mysterious Book of the Dead, which has fallen into nefarious hands. But their journey leads them to cross paths with another seeking the book—Ash. See what happens next in ***Danger Girl and the Army of Darkness #1,*** a crossover limited series by *J. Scott Campbell, Andy Hartnell, & Chris Bolson* produced in conjunction with IDW. (See this issue's front page story for more info on this crossover limited series.)

Bobby Godric's cross-dimensional quest to regain his wife Nora pushes him far past the breaking point of human endurance. Can Team Nevermore save Bobby from destroying himself? Or will Bobby find salvation among the infinite continuum of Earths--even as the alien Hydra begin to mobilize against him? Find out in ***Dean Koontz's Nevermore #2*** by *Dean Koontz, Keith Champagne, & Leno Carvalho.*

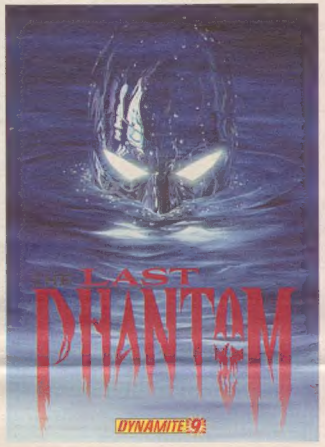
Zorro is dead. As Don Diego's widow struggles to cope with the loss, help arrives in the form of two younger heroes: The Lone Ranger and Tonto. In part two of the five-part ***Death of Zorro*** by *Ande Parks & Esteve Pols*, the source of the link between Zorro and The Lone Ranger is revealed.

Rocketing out of the events of the monster hit movie, ***The Green Hornet—Aftermath #1*** continues the adventures of Green Hornet and Kato as a power struggle for control over drug trafficking in Los Angeles turns violent. In this series by *Jai Nitz & Nigel Raynor*, Green Hornet and Kato are just starting out, but they've attracted attention from the cops, the drug pushers, and even Homeland Security! Britt and Kato keep their alter egos hidden, but a new set of masked men on the scene complicates matters. The first issue includes two bonus classic: Green Hornet stories at no extra cost!

As the new Kato struggles to free herself from a high-tech virtual reality designed to drive her mad, the clock is ticking. Green Hornet and the original Kato hit the streets (Kato behind the wheel of an old friend), trying to find Mulan before her brain is permanently damaged. Follow their quest in ***Kato #13*** by *Ande Parks & Diego Bernard.*

At long last, Kit Walker returns to Africa in ***The Last Phantom #9*** by *Scott Beatty & Eduardo Ferigato.* But the road back to Bengali is threatening at every turn! Forced to travel home by riverboat, Kit witnesses firsthand the horrors of the civil war tearing Bengali apart, as well as the insidious trade funding the violence: blood diamonds.

In the past week, coyote shapeshifter Mercy Thompson has faced angry werewolves, bloodthirsty vampires, and even armed gun men. But now, the greatest danger of all threatens. There's a traitor inside the wolf pack... and Mercy's hunt to uncover the truth may ignite a civil war! Can she unmask the turncoat before the pack is destroyed? Find out in ***Patricia Briggs' Mercy Thompson: Moon Called #7,*** the penultimate issue of the digitally painted adaptation of Briggs' first Mercy Thompson best-seller, produced by *David Lawrence & Amelia Woo.*



In ***Red Sonja: Break the Skin,*** a oneshot by *Jen Van Meter & Edgar Salazar,* Sonja is deceived by the nephew of a dying chieftain into eliminating his rivals, securing leadership of the clan for himself. Enraged by the betrayal, Sonja lets a little magic justice play itself out. Also features a Classic Red Sonja bonus story!

In *Arvid Nelson Carlos Rafael's* ***Warlord of Mars—Dejah Thoris #2,*** Dejah Thoris is in the hands of the treacherous, conniving and downright sleazy Jeddak of Yorn, who wants to make her his concubine, but death is a thousand times preferable to dishonor for a Martian princess.

Dynamite collected volumes include:

- ***The Boys Volume 8: Highland Laddie TP,*** collecting the miniseries by *Garth Ennis & John McCrea,* along with a complete cover gallery.
- ***The Green Hornet: Blood Ties TP,*** collecting the four-issue miniseries.
- ***Galactica 1980 TP,*** collecting the four-issue series.
- ***L.A. Banks' Vampire Huntress: Dawn & Darkness TP,*** collecting the miniseries that takes place after the final novel in the ***Vampire Huntress*** series.

In conjunction with Moebius, Dynamite offers a new edition of the classic 1970s ***Vampirella Aurora Model Kit.*** This 1:13 scale Vampirella Model Kit is a snap-fit no-glue-needed kit that features easy assembly and movable parts.

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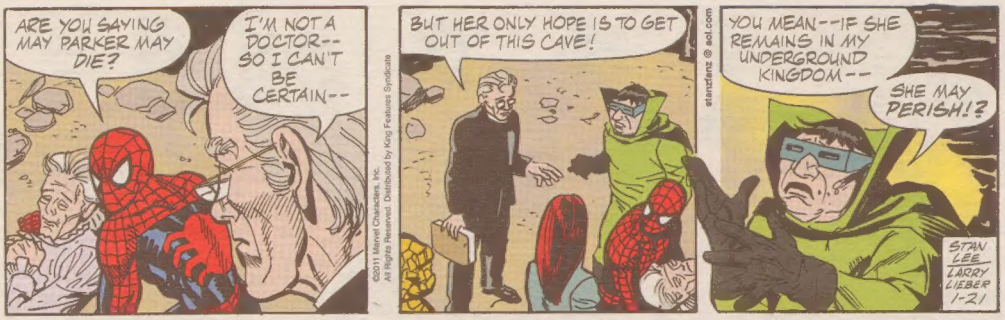
ARE YOU SAYING MAY PARKER MAY DIE?
I'M NOT A DOCTOR-- SO I CAN'T BE CERTAIN--
BUT HER ONLY HOPE IS TO GET OUT OF THIS CAVE!
YOU MEAN--IF SHE REMAINS IN MY UNDERGROUND KINGDOM--
SHE MAY PERISH!?
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 1-21
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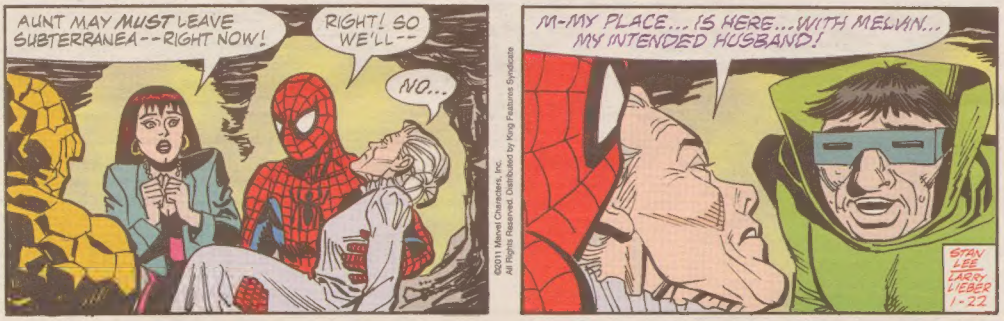
AUNT MAY MUST LEAVE SUBTERRANEA--RIGHT NOW!
RIGHT! SO WE'LL--
NO...
M-MY PLACE... IS HERE...WITH MELVIN... MY INTENDED HUSBAND!
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